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## NICARAGUA.

*Report from Bluefields—Fruit port.*BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *May 30, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to herewith submit report of transactions at this port for the week ended May 29, 1901.

The following vessels have been inspected, clearing from this port for the United States: May 24, Norwegian steamship *Utstein*, Aarsvold, master; crew, 17; passengers, none; cargo, fruit and rubber; for New Orleans, direct. May 26, Norwegian steamship *Hiram*, Pedersen, master; crew, 14; passengers, none; cargo, fruit; for New Orleans, direct.

One death occurred in this town on the 26th instant—a colored infant—due to whooping cough.

The customary inspection of the local hospital was made during the week; very few white patients were noted therein and there was no indication as to the existence of any contagious or infectious disease.

The same satisfactory condition found at the hospital also applies to the town proper.

Referring to my proposed trip to the town of Rama, mentioned in a previous report, dated May 1, 1901, and as the sanitary conditions of Bluefields were such as to warrant my absence, I took advantage of the fact that the fruit steamer *Utstein* was leaving this port on the 23d instant at an hour which on her arrival at Rama would give me an excellent opportunity to inform myself as to the existing sanitary conditions and whether strict compliance with the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service regulations governing vessels engaged in the tropical fruit trade were being observed.

This steamer (*Utstein*) does not, during the quarantine season, carry passengers.

The round trip of fruit steamers from Bluefields to Rama and return requires, ordinarily, about twenty-four hours.

The town of Rama, with an estimated population of not more than 500, of which possibly 25 are white, is healthily situated on a bluff overlooking the Bluefields River, about 60 miles interior from this port, and is the head of navigation for ocean-going vessels.

The sanitary condition of this small town was in all respects very satisfactory and reassuring.

Fruit steamers are here loaded in midstream from barges with fruit that has been collected from plantations on the Sequia, Rama, and Mekis rivers, all small tributaries to the Bluefields River.

On completing the loading at Rama, the steamer returns to the Bluff, 5 miles distant from and opposite Bluefields, the depth of water not admitting nearer approach.

About midway between Bluefields and Rama, fruit is occasionally taken on board at Cama, a point of no importance so far as the number of the population is concerned, except that fruit is collected here in barges from adjacent banana plantations to be loaded on ships while returning down the river, the fruit being handled in the same manner as at Rama, by the laboring fruit crew taken on board at Bluefields, and wearing disinfected clothing.

Owing to insufficient depth of water on the bar at the mouth of the Bluefields River, vessels do not load to their full capacity, and barges of fruit are towed down the river by tugs, and the fruit taken on board steamer after reaching the bluff, when the vessel immediately puts to

sea on her return voyage to New Orleans, that being the only port to which fruit is now being consigned from here.

I desire to emphasize the fact that no fruit is cultivated for exportation in the immediate vicinity of Bluefields, and consequently little or no communication is held between the ship and the town, and is restricted to those officials allowed by the rules for the government of vessels while at fruit ports.

Respectfully,

WM. H. CARSON,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *June 13, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to herewith submit report of transactions at this port during the week ended June 12, 1901.

The following vessels were inspected, clearing direct for the United States: June 6, Norwegian steamship *Condor*, Rasmussen, master; crew, 17; passengers, 8; Adams, medical officer assigned to ship by Louisiana State board of health; cargo, fruit; for New Orleans direct. June 9, Norwegian steamship *Fullon*, Pettersen, master; crew, 14; no passengers; cargo, fruit; for New Orleans direct.

The town of Bluefields at the present time is remarkably healthy, without the least suspicion as to the presence of any contagious or infectious disease; a critical inspection of the local charity hospital was not less reassuring. The above statement is fairly corroborated by the fact that not a death has occurred during the past week; indeed, there has not been a death here within the past fifteen days.

Trustworthy information received here, very recently, as to the satisfactory sanitary conditions of the subports Cama and Rama, fruit points on the Bluefields River, and the adjacent territory as well, while contributive is sufficiently conclusive evidence as to the general good sanitary status now prevailing in this section of Nicaragua.

I inclose herewith 2 triplicate United States Marine-Hospital Service certificates issued to vessels, and 8 duplicate certificates issued to passengers leaving this port for the United States.

Respectfully,

WM. H. CARSON,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### PHILIPPINES.

#### *Report from Manila—Quarantine report.*

MANILA, P. I., *May 21, 1901.*

SIR: In submitting my monthly report of the quarantine transactions in the Philippines, I have the honor to state that I have deemed it advisable to consolidate my weekly reports of outgoing quarantine work in order to more clearly show the amount performed.

The labor during the month has been very arduous for the limited force at the Manila station, and I think a study of the statistical data submitted will show the amount, as well as the importance of this work.